

Easington Rural District

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ending December 31, 1905.

WINGATE,
February, 1906.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report of Sanitary Work and Vital Statistics for the year ending 31st December, 1905.

During the year, 890 deaths occurred of persons belonging to the district, of which 868 occurred within the district and 22 without, and 1,642 births were registered.

The death rate of persons belonging to the district was 18·87 per thousand of population, against 19·81, the average for the previous twenty-five years.

The birth rate was 34·81 per thousand of population, against 39·49, the average for the previous twenty-five years.

The death rate is 54·20 of the birth rate, against 46·07, the average of the previous twenty-five years.

The number of deaths under five years of age was 456, being 51·23 per cent. of the total deaths, against 52·11, the average for the previous twenty-five years.

The number of deaths under one year to one thousand births was 174, against 168, the average for the previous twenty-four years.

Twenty-three deaths were of persons over eighty years of age: twelve males with an average of 82·5 years, and eleven females with an average of 87·1 years.

255 deaths occurred in the first quarter, 222 in the second, 216 in the third and 197 in the fourth.

Thirty-seven deaths were certified by coroner's inquest or order and four deaths were uncertified.

Thirty-five deaths occurred at the Union Workhouse: thirty of persons belonging to the district and five of persons not belonging to the district; one from enteric fever, six from tubercular disease, three from heart disease, two from pulmonary disease, one each from malignant, alcoholic and venereal diseases, accident and suicide, and the rest from diseases incident to old age.

Four deaths occurred at the Infectious Hospital.

Of the twenty-two deaths of persons occurring in Public Institutions beyond the district, eight were at the County Asylum, Sedgefield, ten at Sunderland Infirmary, two at Hartlepool Hospital, and one each Durham County Hospital and Stockton Hospital.

The deaths from the principal zymotic diseases were 2·24 per thousand of population, against 2·08, the average for the previous twenty-four years. They were :—

	Under 5	Over 5	Total
Measles	26	1	27
Whooping-cough ...	41	—	41
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup...	14	8	22
Enteric Fever	1	15	16
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	82	24	106

TYPHUS FEVER.—No case of this disease has appeared in the district since 1895.

SMALL-POX.—Only one case of this appeared during the year, in a tramp at the Workhouse. He was immediately sent to the Infectious Hospital and the usual precautions as to disinfection followed, and no other occurred. It was pointed out that of the outbreaks in the district during the two previous years ninety per cent. had been introduced by tramps. This is a further evidence of the danger to which the public health is exposed by this class and one of the many advantages to be derived from their suppression.

MEASLES.—The year began with the district quite free from this disease, but, early in January, it appeared at Hawthorn and Cold Hesleden to the extent of 100 cases, all mild, introduced into these places from Seaham Harbour. The Elementary School at Hawthorn attended by these children was closed for three weeks and the epidemic quickly subsided without a single death. Before this desirable termination it had extended to Murton early in February. Over 800 cases occurred in this village with 21 deaths, a case mortality of 2·6 per cent., all but one of which

were of children under five years, and mostly from pulmonary sequelæ induced by the inclement weather then obtaining. The Elementary Schools were closed for a period of five weeks, after which the epidemic gradually subsided, although a few cases lingered on till the beginning of May. At this time it appeared at Haswell, South Hetton and Seaton, neighbouring villages, to the extent of fifty, twenty and twelve cases respectively at these places; all were very mild with only one death. In September it appeared at Easington village in epidemic form, necessitating the closure of the Elementary Schools there for three weeks. Though extensive, it was mild, with only one death. A few isolated cases occurred throughout the district generally but nowhere else was it epidemic. During the last two months of the year the district was quite free from it. The outbreak at Murton was the subject of a special report to you on June 10.

SCARLET FEVER.—Like previous years, this has appeared in every locality in the district, but less in each generally, except Easington and Wingate where there was a slight, and in Seaham a marked, increase. It has also displayed its usual characteristics of being present at all seasons but increasing in the coldest months, the greatest incidence of the year being in December, though in no locality has it been so markedly epidemic as to require any special action for its suppression. In common with the rest of the County it has been shewing a declining fatality since its great outburst in 1878. The case mortality for the years 1899 to 1904 respectively was 3·5, 3·4, 2·3, 3·5, 3·3 and 1·8, shewing a gradual decline which has culminated in this year, the first on record without a single fatal case. Further, no case has occurred in connection with any dairy farm or milk supply.

WHOOPING-COUGH.—This was last epidemic in the district generally in 1902, after which the district was free from it except a few in Haswell in 1904, from which it spread to every locality in the district during the year, and though not severely epidemic anywhere was most fatal in Wingate. Only at Castle Eden did it affect school attendance, and there by keeping absent contacts in infected families. All the deaths were of children under school age; and this disease, so protracted and refractory in its nature, permits of no means for its prevention but exclusion from school and isolation in the home not practicable under existing conditions.

DIPHTHERIA.—In previous reports it was pointed out that this disease, formerly scarce, got a footing in the district in common with the County in 1900, since when it has, except a remission last year, steadily increased. The numbers in the years 1900–1904 were 13, 14, 77, 92 and 62, and this year the number is 98, in 83 households. The points of interest to be noted in an analysis of the year's cases are:—They appeared in every locality in the district the same as the previous year, with an increase in each locality except Haswell and Seaham. They did not seem to be associated by seasonal conditions as they were equally distributed over each quarter. Their general distribution in each locality; and though there were a few connected groups there was an absence of anything like an epidemic or a specific origin, except at Wheatley Hill (Wingate). The great variation in the severity of the disease at the different localities. The case mortality varying from nothing to 50 per cent., and for the whole district 19·3 per cent. Only five cases could be traced to direct infection from outside the district. Its more frequent appearance in the cleanest and best-kept houses, with the most satisfactory

surroundings and the absence of any history; only seven of the 83 houses could be described as thoroughly dirty within. In 13 households were specific sanitary defects discovered. No cases could be traced to school infection: all children from infected houses cease attendance until recovery. For its age distribution see Table III. Its continuance and extensive distribution point out its origin. First introduced to a village by town manure or specific infection, as shewn in previous years, it simply spreads by personal contact. The comparatively small number of multiple cases may be explained by greater care in disinfection and isolation, the frequency and fatality of the disease having stimulated the people to greater efforts in this direction. No case could be traced to milk supply. A case occurred at each of two dairy farms, but isolation was so effectually secured that no spread resulted from either.

At Easington eleven cases: two near to defective ashpits; one entering the Workhouse from outside; one with a blocked drain; two with untrapped sinks in yard; two with no history; and three in a dirty and damp house. Haswell, four: one with a blocked, stinking sink; one with untrapped sink; and two mild, with no history. Shotton, fourteen: one beside an offensive cesspool; five in a group near by to this; one came ill from outside; the remainder mild, with no history except that two were in houses dirty and poor. In the Castle Eden group: three in the agricultural villages with defects of ashpit or drainage; five with satisfactory surroundings and no history; and one got outside. Murton, ten: one at a farm directly infected from outside; one brought from outside ill; one with a blocked drain; the rest all in good, clean houses, with no history except that they had been in proximity to imported town

manure ; three cases in one house from defective isolation. Thornley : one infected from outside ; one from a house infected the previous year ; three in two dirty houses ; one by direct infection ; six without any history except that the same applies to this place as to Wheatley Hill in regard to surface disturbances associated with a new drainage system. Kelloe, one case—source of direct infection traced and no further spread. Wingate, 22 cases. 16 of these, at Wheatley Hill, were the subject of a special report on 10th June, where the outbreak was traced to the disturbance of a sewage-polluted surface. Of the remaining six cases, one occurred at the same village, two at a distant farm with drainage defects, and three in Wingate village, the only cases there, all in one house. Monk Hesleden, four cases in two houses, with no history or insanitary surroundings. Five, all mild, at Hutton Henry in four houses,—all good houses—and untraceable, some of them sequelæ to measles ; and two at an outstanding, dilapidated hamlet whose whole drainage was very defective. Seaham : of four cases here, one was attributed to contact with imported town manure ; the remaining three were in houses with conditions that defied all inquiry to trace their origin.

MEMBRANOUS CROUP.—Of four cases notified from this, one was closely associated with diphtheria. The rest were all young, of short duration and fatal, with no history or time for diagnosis ; one having whooping-cough, and thus often confused with capillary bronchitis or laryngismus stridulus.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Although there are a few more cases than in the previous year, the incidence is still satisfactorily low as will be seen from the following table. It gives the number of cases, the attack rate per thousand of population and the case

mortality per cent. since the adoption of the Notification Act.

Year	No. of Cases		Rate		Mortality	
1893	...	332	...	8·07	...	12·65
1894	...	101	...	2·38	...	23·76
1895	...	87	...	2·01	...	19·54
1896	...	54	...	1·26	...	14·81
1897	...	34	...	0·89	...	20·58
1898	...	74	...	1·89	...	29·72
1899	...	33	...	0·83	...	18·18
1900	...	69	...	1·74	...	4·34
1901	...	115	...	2·80	...	12·17
1902	...	47	...	1·07	...	12·76
1903	...	35	...	0·79	...	17·13
1904	...	38	...	0·83	...	26·31
1905	...	45	...	0·94	...	35·55

The vagaries shewn by this disease are often marked, and this year more than usual. Excepting the increase in August, they were nearly equally distributed over every quarter and fairly equally in every locality, except Shotton which was quite free, and Thornley which had double its share. Forty-five cases occurred in forty-one houses, with an unusually high mortality, 35·55 per cent., but when combined with continued fever this was reduced to 23·18 per cent. 77 per cent. were in adults, and these displayed an unusual severity in the symptoms, some shewing a strong resemblance to typhus, in others cerebro-spinal fever was for a time suspected, while a few had no symptoms of enteric fever whatever. Five cases were brought into the district, having been infected outside—all single cases. The rest may be considered as originating in the district. No case could be traced to water supply or in any way connected with milk. The source of infection, as in usual mild years, can be attributed to existing germs blown by wind or carried by flies on to food or water and by that means effecting an entrance into the system. This

will be intensified in houses that are very dirty within, and there were eight such. Over these your Authority have no jurisdiction. A special report on the outbreak of the third quarter was the subject of a report to you on 5th December, when, besides the foregoing items, details were given as to disposal of excrement, drainage, disposition and nature of house property and general sanitary conditions of every locality in the district where a case of enteric fever had occurred.

The occurrence and distribution of cases in the district were:—In January, two: one found at Haswell in a dirty, poverty-stricken house, when it was sent to the Workhouse where it was first diagnosed and died soon after; one at Thornley, doubtful, died before being tested. In February, four: two at South Hetton, one with no history the other phthisical; one at Thornley in a dirty, overcrowded house; and one at Seaham, dying from pneumonia. In March, one at Murton in a clean house, with no history. In April, two: one at Castle Eden Colliery in a dirty house; and one at South Hetton, brought ill from outside the district. In May, none. In June, six: three at Wingate, all in clean houses and surroundings, and with no history; two at Wheatley Hill, one got from outside the district, the other with no history; and one at Murton, no history, but a dirty and blocked channel near by. In July, two: one at Burdon, doubtful, but came there ill; and one at Castle Eden Colliery, poor and dirty. In August, three: one at Thornley, with no history but in a dirty house; one at Murton, with no history; and one at South Hetton, also in a clean house, with no history. In September, eighteen: two at Haswell in the very best houses, with no history; six at Thornley, three in one house, dirty and impoverished; one mild case in a house dirty both inside

and without; and two fatal cases, both in clean houses, with no history whatever; four at Seaham, three in very clean houses, and all without any history or insanitary conditions; two at Castle Eden Colliery in one house, with no history; one at Wheatley Hill, no history, and the most satisfactory sanitary conditions; one at Easington, brought ill from outside; and two at Station Town in good houses and surroundings, one referred to lingering over an opened drain. In October, three: one each at South Hetton and Seaham, with no history, and one at Easington in a damp house with insanitary surroundings quite sufficient to produce it. In November, three: one at Easington, with no history; two at Thornley, one in a delicate child in a satisfactory house and surroundings, and one in a poor and dirty house. In December, a second case in the last-mentioned house at Thornley.

CONTINUED FEVER.—These, in contradistinction to the enteric, appeared mostly in the young in the same localities as that disease appeared. Some were probably mild cases of it and, similarly, they were spread equally throughout the year. The case mortality was *nil*.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.—This disease had not before been observed in the district until this year, when it was suspected, and in November four cases were found at Murton whose symptoms clearly corresponded with those by which this fever is distinguished. They were all in young children; three in one house. No clue to their origin has been discovered. No other case followed. Two were fatal and are specially returned under a sub-division of continued fever in Table IV. In accordance with the Local Government Board's instructions, a special report on the outbreak was made to you on 30th December, giving full details, including the symptoms observed in the cases.

DIARRHŒA.—There was a considerable amount of this, but not so severe as usually experienced, probably due to the cool autumn. The deaths were 3·48 per cent. of total deaths, against 5·26, the average for the preceding twenty-two years, but including enteritis the percentage of total deaths is 5·95, still more favourable as they embrace cases not formerly contained under that head and occurring more widely throughout the year. 94 per cent. were of children under five years of age.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—The proportion of cases to births was 0·42 per cent., against 0·31, the average for the previous twelve years. The mortality, including all septic cases and for all degrees of prematurity, was 50 per cent., against 56 for the same period. In two cases no qualified person had attended at the birth, and in two the domestic conditions were dirty. No two cases were found to be connected, and due precautions were observed in each case to prevent spreading by infection.

The deaths from phthisis were 0·74 per thousand of population; from other tubercular diseases 0·99; and from all other respiratory diseases 2·86. These figures are practically the same as the previous year and are all very favourable.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.—A considerable increase of new houses has to be recorded, the plans for which have to be submitted to your Plans Committee and certification by your Surveyor required before occupation. Subject to these regulations plans have been passed during the year for the following:—Wingate, twenty-three good-class cottages and one villa; Trimdon, two better-class houses, one villa, a vicarage and an hotel; South Hetton, eighteen better-class workmen's houses; Horden, ten workmen's houses with a bath

in each, the first introduction of this improvement in the neighbourhood, eleven houses with shops; Haswell, two semi-detached villas; Shotton Colliery, eighty-two good workmen's houses with a bath to each; Thornley, five better-class houses; New Seaham, two good houses; Fleming Field, six better-class houses and eight cottages; Murton, twenty-five good houses and plans for a building estate; Easington, one villa; Wheatley Hill, two better-class workmen's houses; alteration and addition to schools at Easington, Castle Eden and Castle Eden Colliery, and a complete, extensive block of school buildings at Horden.

The improvement of old dwellings is a matter of pressing importance which sometimes is the work of a Special Committee who make a personal inspection before deciding as to alteration or condemnation. The difficulties are want of space, increased cost to small owners and risk of increasing the scarcity of workmen's houses where they are much in demand. Plans for alterations or additions to such have been passed for five houses and shops at Shotton, two houses at Wingate, one at Murton, two at Easington, two at South Hetton, one at Burdon, four at Castle Eden and one at Wheatley Hill. Small ash-closets have been added to old houses in place of defective privy-midden conveniences: two at South Hetton; two at Hutton Henry; eighteen at Shotton; all the houses at Castle Eden Foundry; two streets of houses at Seaham; besides alterations to improve ventilation. Eleven houses at Shotton Colliery, closed by magistrates' order, have been put into sanitary condition and had the orders rescinded, and a great many old houses there have been improved without submitting plans.

In view of the need for more housing accommodation every encouragement should be given to the building of more dwelling houses. The

adoption of new building bye-laws better adapted to the requirements of a rural district, which is at present under consideration, should be a material help in this direction.

The Private Streets Works Improvement Act, adopted the year before and applied to Cooper's Terrace, Thornley, has produced a good road, drained and channeled, and a kerbed asphalt foot-path. Wheatley Hill has been much improved by extensive street making, paving and channeling.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.—A large amount of new work has been done to meet the requirements of new streets and houses, to displace open channeling in the old, and for the purification of the whole sewage of villages before emptying into streams. The drainage system for Wheatley Hill and Thornley is now completed and every house is connected by a sink in the yard. It works well except that the bacterial filters smell badly, and when the wind carries it in the direction of the village this is a serious nuisance. A remedy for this is being considered by your Council. For the whole sewage of Shotton Colliery a set of continuous bacterial filters has been constructed and is working satisfactorily. For Murton and Cold Hesleden a main sewerage with filters for disposal has been designed and the contract for the work has been let. The settling tank at Haswell, receiving the sewage from the eastern section of the village, has been replaced by a continuous bacterial filter. Besides keeping in order all sewage works and the repair, or relaying, of drains and sewers already existing, your Surveyor has constructed 3,650 yards of new sewers, in every case provided with all requisite manholes, inspection chambers and ventilators, at the following places:—

WINGATE.—300 yards of 9-inch pipes to drain the houses on the east side of the front street from

the back, and connected by 4-inch branch drains, in place of a defective drainage by the front street, and 270 yards of 9-inch pipes wholly for new property in North Road to connect it with the system.

STATION TOWN.—200 yards of 12-inch pipes and 400 yards of 9-inch pipes, completing a system for that village begun the previous year.

SHOTTON COLLIERY.—300 yards of 9-inch pipes to connect new property and old repaired houses with the existing and now completed system.

TRIMDON FOUNDRY.—1,450 yards of 15-inch pipes to convey the whole sewage of the village from where it entered a stream to a distance for treatment.

MURTON COLLIERY.—420 yards of 9-inch pipes to connect houses in Wood's Terrace and new streets behind it with the entire system.

EASINGTON.—60 yards of 6-inch pipes, in place of a defective field pipe, to drain part of Clappersgate.

CASTLE EDEN COLLIERY.—250 yards of 9-inch pipes to drain the front street from behind, in place of a dilapidated and badly-working sewer.

CASTLE EDEN VILLAGE has had a new 6-inch sewer laid along its whole length by the owner.

WATER SUPPLY.—The only extension into the district during the year is by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company into the village of Burdon, formerly supplied by a village well. The supply to Shotton Colliery village which was deficient as to quantity and distribution has been improved. The Haswell Company supplying the water have sunk their well to a lower level and the available quantity is now amply sufficient. An

iron reservoir has been erected in the village and an additional one has been arranged for. A number of extra street taps have been fixed and, with more to follow shortly, the supply may now be considered satisfactory. The water is from the magnesian limestone, which as a drinking water ranks the highest. The supply to Old Shotton village is from a common well which in the recent drought was insufficient. A better supply it is expected will be available shortly. The Council's supply to Hutton Henry has been extended to two houses in Sheraton township. Complaint was made at Hutton Henry and Hartbushes of a shortage at the higher levels during the day, due to want of head. This has been remedied at considerable cost by the erection of a storage tank which fills during the night and acts as an auxiliary by day. Three samples of water used for domestic purposes have been analysed and found to be unfit for use; one was ordered to be discontinued by magistrates' order. A new 24-inch main has been brought through the district from Castle Eden by the Sunderland & South Shields Water Company which will always be of assistance should the present systems along the line fail.

INSANITARY PROPERTY.—Eight statutory notices under the Housing of the Working Classes Act were served for eleven houses: three at Throstle's Nest and one at Easington were put into habitable repair; two at Thornley were closed by magistrates' order; and five at Easington are under consideration.

Under the Public Health Act, 23 statutory notices were served: for nuisances by keeping swine and poultry, overcrowding, accumulation of refuse and offensive smells from butchers' premises; for untrapped sinks connected with dwelling houses and other defects of drainage; insufficient

privy and ashpit accommodation ; and dilapidated and insanitary conditions of house property. All these matters were remedied or received attention to the satisfaction of your Inspector.

NUISANCES.—Under the Public Health Act, 481 written informal notices were served by your Inspector for the following conditions: Dwelling Houses, foul conditions, 55, structural defects, 29, overcrowding, 5; Lodging Houses, for lime washing and admission of fresh air, 8; Cowsheds, lime washing and ventilation, 9; Slaughter Houses, as to cleanliness, 7; Ashpits and Privies overcharged, 78; Deposits of refuse and manure near to dwellings, 23; Defective Yard Paving, 11; House Drainage, defective traps, 41, no disconnection from sewers, 7, blocked drains, 63; Water Supply, 2; Pigsties too near to house, 18; Animals improperly kept, mostly poultry, 31; other nuisances, 94. All these in general have been abated.

EXCREMENT AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.—The increasing extension of sewerage throughout the district is being taken advantage of for the introduction of water-closets, especially to private houses. For the district generally it is still by the dry ashpit and privy, though the smaller ash-closet has been introduced and will be increased with advantage. At Seaham the scavenging is still done for the whole village by the Colliery Company. Except there, the scavenging and cleansing of the entire district, unless farm-houses, is undertaken by the Council. The work is let out to a number of contractors under the supervision of your Inspector. There is a steady improvement in the carrying out of the work on the whole, though several times the contractor had to be changed for unsatisfactory performance, and in one instance the contract was cancelled and a fine demanded in terms of agreement. The cleansing of the main

sewers, cess-pools, settling tanks and sewage filters is undertaken by your permanent staff.

LODGING HOUSES.—There are only two of these in the district, both at Easington. They are registered and regularly visited, by which means their general cleanliness is fairly well secured. No case of infectious disease occurred in any of them.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.—There are 46 of these on the register and they are regularly inspected. The consumption of milk as an article of diet, especially for children, is much too small in the district, and this trade is consequently very limited, often carried on under difficulties and not at all satisfactory. Attempts at enforcing much-needed improvements are often followed by giving up the trade, and the consumer, with little inconvenience, resorts to the tinned article to the prejudice of the child and consequent increase of the infant death rate.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.—These are regularly inspected for nuisances, and eight notices for those found were served. They are not registered but, under suitable regulations, might be with advantage. Notices *re* anthrax from the Board of Agriculture were served upon all the butchers.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTION.—Personal inquiry into every outbreak and every individual case of the more important fevers is made by your Medical Officer and Inspector. This is followed as indicated by house-to-house visitation, for the investigation of disease origins and insanitary conditions. Disinfectants are distributed with instructions for their use, and printed instructions for guidance to the household as to isolation and prevention. When necessary, disinfection is performed by your Inspector, infected bedding and

other articles burned and compensation made. Notices were given by placard requesting the public to refrain from throwing slops or refuse on to the footpaths, a practice responsible for much diffusion of disease and with difficulty combated. Disinfectants are supplied to schools and to contractors for use in privies and ashpits. The Isolation Hospital, containing twenty beds in four wards, has been kept in readiness with a permanent staff, with the addition of extra nurses when required. Twenty cases were received into it during the year. A conjoint Small-pox Hospital Committee has been formed between your Council and that for Sedgefield Rural District. The work has progressed so far that the site has been selected, the negotiations for purchase nearly completed and plans for the wards and administrative buildings approved.

At the request of the Local Government Board, four special reports have been made: on an outbreak of measles at East Murton, an outbreak of Diphtheria at Wingate, on the recent prevalence of fever in the district and the occurrence of cerebro-spinal fever.

A Local Government Board enquiry was held for a new burying ground at Wheatley Hill, at which your Medical Officer gave evidence.

As to the health of the district during the year, Table IV. will shew that, but for the occurrence of whooping-cough, a disease over which our sanitary measures have no control, the death rate at all ages and the infantile mortality would have been very much the lowest on record.

The most unfavourable feature of the year's statistics is the birth rate, which is the lowest on record. It was lowest in the Castle Eden, or agricultural, group of townships, 25·84, and highest

in Thornley, 40·28; both extremes much below the previous year.

There is an additional table this year taking cognisance of the illegitimate births, which are 1·25 per thousand of population, and below the average of England and Wales. They were highest in the Wingate sub-district, 4·5 per cent. of total births, and lowest in the Dawdon sub-district, 2·3 per cent. The male births were 71 per cent. against 51 per cent. in legitimate births.

The population has increased 3·9 per cent. on the previous year and 14·0 per cent. on the average of the preceding decennium.

The following table shews the chief vital statistics for 1905 and their comparison with those for the administrative County per thousand of population:—

	Easington			Adminis- trative County		
Birth Rate	34·81	...	...	34·4	...	...
Death Rate	18·87	...	...	17·4	...	...
Zymotic Death Rate	2·24	...	...	2·37	...	...
Infant Mortality (rate per 1,000 births)	174	...	...	159	...	...
Small-pox	<i>Nil</i>	...	...	0·002	...	...
Scarlet Fever	<i>Nil</i>	...	...	0·09	...	...
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	0·46	...	...	0·25	...	...
Fever, Enteric and Continued	0·39	...	...	0·20	...	...
Measles	0·37	...	...	0·48	...	...
Whooping-cough	0·87	...	...	0·42	...	...
Diarrhoea	0·65	...	...	0·90	...	...
Enteritis	0·46	...	...	0·36	...	...
Phthisis	0·74	...	...	1·00	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	0·99	...	...	0·74	...	...
Respiratory Diseases...	2·86	...	...	3·16	...	...

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT 1901

I beg to report on the administration of this Act in the district during this, the fourth, year of its operation.

The register has been kept by your Clerk and the work has been superintended by your Medical Officer of Health. Every place on the register has been visited and inspected, the less important at least once by your Inspector and those where young persons are employed, or persons of both sexes, frequently, both by your Inspector and the Medical Officer. The return in tabular form of the inspections shews that no defect was observed that required prosecution or even to be referred to H.M. Inspector, except failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act, and this was found to occur in twenty-one cases. The defects found are mentioned under each of the heads to which they belong. In no case could they be termed serious, and when attention was drawn to them verbally they were generally remedied. Sanitary matters in regard to the factories are now satisfactory. Although there have been a few changes, the number on the register is about the same as last year, and there has been no change in the nature or importance of the work carried on at the places inspected.

FACTORIES.—In seven of these persons of both sexes were employed. In two of them there was no sanitary accommodation for the females, but this was remedied as promised. In the defective case, this occurred during a stoppage of the works, and it was promised to be remedied when work by females was resumed.

DOMESTIC FACTORIES.—There are still none of these in the district.

WORKSHOPS.—Most of the work of inspection came under this head. Cleanliness, air space and ventilation were the only defects calling for attention. In no case was anything more required for their remedy than a verbal notice, even when considerable structural alterations were necessary. In workshops where dressmaking is carried on—often in private houses—the most important matter calling for attention is a case of infectious disease in any such house. This can be guarded against by the Notification of Infectious Diseases Act which is in force; but no case was found.

BAKEHOUSES.—One has been discontinued and another added to the register. Both are retail and not underground. In neither was any violation found of the regulations as to limewashing, cleanliness, communication with sleeping places or connection with sanitary conveniences.

HOME WORK.—There is not any of this as a regular practice in the district, except sometimes by a tailor or dressmaker, and not calling for registration.

WORKPLACES.—These are limited to stores and shops where young persons or females are employed, and the defects noted, mostly as to want of cleanliness, have been insignificant.

I append an abstract of the register kept by your Clerk to date.

FACTORIES—

Brickmaking	...	...	...	...	7
Beer bottling and ærated waters	...			...	3
Electricity generating	...	...	...	...	1
Cartwright	...	...	...	...	1
Limestone quarry	...	...	...	...	1
				—	13

Carried forward...13

Brought forward...13

WORKSHOPS—

Joiners and Cartwrights	...	...	10
Blacksmiths	...	...	12
Dressmakers	...	...	34
Cobblers ...	...	...	10
Cabinetmakers	...	...	8
Milliners ...	...	...	10
Tailors ...	...	...	3
Saddler ...	...	...	1
Coachpainters	...	...	2
Watch and Clock Repairing	...	...	1
			— 91

WORKPLACES—

Grocery and Drapery	...	...	8
Beer bottling	...	...	2
			— 10

BAKEHOUSES	...	...	2
			— 2

Total...116

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES ARTHUR,

L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E., D.P.H.R.C.P.E.,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Easington Rural District Council.

TABLE 1

EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1905 and previous Years

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	NET DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number	* Rate	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages					Number	* Rate
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number	* Rate					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1895	43,097	1,747	40.53	318	182	842	19.53	29	11			
1896	42,563	1,642	38.57	287	174	795	18.63	37	11	10	794	18.61
1897	38,066	1,470	38.61	251	170	694	18.23	33	13	13	694	18.23
1898	39,097	1,430	35.57	247	172	724	18.51	34	16	13	721	18.44
1899	39,293	1,372	34.91	276	201	746	18.72	24	6	14	754	19.18
1900	40,194	1,428	35.52	238	166	739	18.38	35	13	13	739	18.38
1901	40,997	1,656	40.39	312	188	837	20.41	35	9	23	851	20.75
1902	43,761	1,659	37.91	282	169	797	18.21	23	7	24	814	18.60
1903	44,117	1,640	37.17	272	165	794	17.99	22	1	19	812	18.40
1904	45,363	1,687	37.18	291	172	819	18.05	32	9	15	825	18.18
Averages for years 1895-1904	41,653	1,573	37.63	277	176	778	18.66	30	9	16	778	18.75
1905	47,160	1,642	34.81	287	174	† 874	18.53	39	5	22	890	18.87

* Rates in Columns 4, 8 and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

† For one short, see text.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of this table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7 corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)	Total population at all ages			40,997	At Census of 1901
	Number of inhabited houses			...	...	...	7,784
	Average number of persons per house			...	...	...	5.26

I Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District	II Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District	III Other Institutions, the deaths in which have been distributed among the several localities in the District
Easington Union Workhouse	County Asylum, Sedgelyield	Sunderland Infirmary County Hospital, Durham Hartlepool Hospital Stockton and Thornaby Hospital

TABLE II

EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

Vital Statistics of Separate Localities in 1905 and previous Years

NAMES OF LOCALITIES	EASINGTON				HASWELL				SHOTTON				CASTLE EDEN, HAWTHORN, BURDON, COLD HESLEDEN, DALTON-LE-DALE				EAST MURTON				KELLOE AND THORNLEY				WINGATE				MONK HESLEDEN, HUTTON HENRY, SHERATON, HULAM, NESBIT				SRAHAM, SEATON, SLINGLEY			
	1				2				3				4				5				6				7				8				9			
	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year
YEAR	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>
1895	1,656	40	53	8	6,846	270	131	37	2,385	102	41	24	3,063	88	31	16	5,372	257	109	45	3,872	153	91	30	7,103	362	154	68	6,165	240	119	46	6,635	235	113	44
1896	1,682	40	50	2	6,846	234	117	43	2,385	105	41	11	3,063	78	21	8	5,412	246	118	49	3,872	161	75	23	7,503	362	165	62	5,165	214	98	43	6,635	202	110	46
1897	1,489	38	48	5	4,602	205	83	28	1,213	43	13	1	3,129	78	25	4	5,412	253	120	47	3,898	166	99	32	7,580	338	129	58	4,541	162	69	33	6,142	187	108	43
1898	1,547	40	64	4	5,616	192	97	36	1,090	33	20	3	3,238	68	33	8	5,664	246	104	41	3,908	176	96	40	7,974	355	154	63	3,918	126	61	17	6,142	194	105	35
1899	1,480	41	45	6	5,407	187	135	46	1,302	27	15	1	3,071	69	33	11	5,764	255	120	38	3,888	156	75	22	8,000	325	167	67	4,218	138	69	28	6,168	174	97	37
1900	1,606	57	36	8	5,928	184	101	30	1,773	47	36	9	3,094	83	43	9	5,943	249	105	45	3,978	154	74	18	7,706	321	146	52	4,628	142	100	35	5,538	191	98	32
1901	1,731	47	41	8	5,512	229	87	28	2,324	87	45	13	3,300	111	59	12	6,541	296	133	52	3,989	154	89	34	8,005	347	166	72	4,051	164	106	42	5,544	221	125	51
1902	2,060	59	46	12	5,800	239	127	47	3,040	99	53	20	3,239	121	44	13	6,715	292	130	51	3,784	157	96	35	8,091	334	144	52	5,349	163	70	19	5,683	195	104	33
1903	1,990	46	28	6	6,180	229	100	33	3,708	136	86	32	3,008	101	53	14	6,401	279	119	41	3,908	147	77	26	8,043	342	192	71	5,196	167	83	26	5,683	193	74	23
1904	2,067	67	39	10	6,417	225	128	41	4,234	181	90	33	3,113	93	56	27	6,501	262	120	35	4,034	169	60	24	8,553	324	151	65	5,279	179	86	25	5,165	187	95	31
Averages of Years 1895 to 1904	1,730	47	45	6.9	5,921	219	110	37	2,345	86	44	14	3,131	89	39	12	5,972	263	117	44	3,913	159	82	28	7,855	341	156	63	4,851	169	86	31	5,933	198	103	37
1905	2,197	62	38	11	6,575	221	117	34	5,170	167	96	34	3,444	89	50	15	6,711	257	149	55	3,997	161	96	28	8,575	310	165	53	5,380	187	76	23	5,111	188	103	34

NOTE.—(a) Deaths of residents occurring beyond the district are included in sub-columns *c* of this table, and those of non-residents registered in the district excluded.

(b) Deaths of residents occurring in public institutions are allotted to the respective localities, according to addresses of the deceased.

TABLE III

EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1903

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY									NUMBER OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY								
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years						Easington H. W. 1	Haswell 2	Shotton 3	Castle Eden, Hawthorn, Bardon, Cold Hesleden, Dalton-le-Dale 4	East Murton 5	Kelroe and Thornley 6	Wingate 7	Monk Hesleden, Hutton Henry, Sheraton, Hulam, Nesbit 8	Seaham, Scaton, Slingley 9	Easington 1	Haswell 2	Shotton 3	Castle Eden, Hawthorn, Bardon, Cold Hesleden, Dalton-le-Dale 4	East Murton 5	Kelroe and Thornley 6	Wingate 7	Monk Hesleden, Hutton Henry, Sheraton, Hulam, Nesbit 8	Seaham, Scaton, Slingley 9
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards																		
Small-pox	1					1		1									1								
Cholera																									
Diphtheria	98		19	45	15	18	1	11	4	14	9	10	13	22	11	4	4		2						
Membranous croup ...	4		2	2									1	1	2										
Erysipelas	72	2		7	6	51	6	3	15	3	2	2	9	19	9	10									
Scarlet fever	208	3	86	113	1	5		14	88	4	1	7	14	35	4	41									
Typhus fever																									
Enteric fever	45		1	9	6	28	1	2	8	1	1	3	12	6	6	6	1					6		5	1
Relapsing fever																									
Continued fever... ..	24		9	7	4	4			9				3	4	8										
Puerperal fever	7				1	6			3						2	2									
Plague																									
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	4		3	1								4													
Totals...	463	5	120	184	33	113	8	31	127	22	13	26	52	87	42	63	6			2		6		5	1

H.—Easington District Infectious Hospital. W.—Union Workhouse.

TABLE IV

EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

Causes of and ages at Death during Year 1905

CAUSES OF DEATH	DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBOINED AGES							DEATHS IN OR BELONGING TO LOCALITIES AT ALL AGES								TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITU- TIONS IN THE DISTRICT	
	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up- wards	Easington	Haswell	Shotton	Castle Eden, Hawthorn, Burdon, Cold Hesleden, Dalton-le-Dale	East Merton	Kelloe and Thornley	Wingate	Monk Hesleden, Hutton Henry, Sheraton, Hulam, Nesbitt		Seaham, Seaton, Stangley
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	27	9	17	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	21	1	2	1	...	...
Scarlet fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough ...	41	20	21	...	...	...	...	1	1	5	1	5	5	16	2	5	...
Diphtheria and membranous croup ...	22	...	14	7	1	...	...	3	1	...	1	5	2	4	5	1	1
Croup ...	5	...	4	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...
Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Enteric Other continued (Cerebro- spinal)	16	...	1	...	...	14	1	1	3	...	1	1	5	4	1	1	4
	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	4	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic influenza ...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	31	23	8	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	1	...	1	3	7	12	...
Enteritis ...	22	14	5	2 =	...	...	1	1	3	2	1	2	6	6	...	1	...
Puerperal fever...	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other septic diseases ...	5	1	1	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	5
Phthisis ...	35	...	2	4	4	24	1	2	5	5	...	7	3	5	2	6	...
Other tubercular diseases ...	47	9	20	11	3	4	...	2	3	2	3	7	3	12	4	11	1
Cancer, malignant disease ...	23	...	...	...	1	15	7	...	1	4	4	4	3	4	1	2	1
Bronchitis ...	63	27	17	2	1	10	6	...	2	6	3	12	4	22	7	7	1
Pneumonia ...	59	12	22	1	5	12	7	2	9	12	1	8	10	7	5	5	1
Pleurisy ...	4	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Other diseases of respiratory organs ...	9	3	1	2	...	3	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	4	...	1	...
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of liver }	4	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Veneral diseases ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premature birth ...	57	57	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	4	4	12	3	15	5	5	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition...	35	24	...	...	5	6	...	2	3	5	6	2	6	3	2	6	...
Heart diseases ...	49	...	...	1	3	31	14	4	7	2	3	10	5	8	6	4	3
Accidents ...	20	1	1	1	4	11	2	1	2	1	1	4	3	5	1	2	1
Suicides ...	2	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
All other causes...	299	86	34	7	10	51	111	14	47	44	17	44	33	43	27	30	18
All causes...	890	287	169	41	38	201	154	38	117	96	50	149	96	165	76	103	39

TABLE V

EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1905

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age

CAUSE OF DEATH		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
All Causes	Certified ...	72	12	12	11	107	37	25	12	7	12	17	13	15	15	15	10	285
	Uncertified ...	1				1	1											2
Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox ...																	
	Chicken-pox ...												1		1	4	3	
	Measles ...																	
	Scarlet Fever ...																	
	Diphtheria : Croup																	
Diarrhoeal Diseases	Whooping-cough ...																	
	Diarrhoea, all forms																	
	Enteritis <i>(not Tuberculous)</i>																	
	Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																	
	Premature Birth ...	42	3	3	2	50	4	1	2	1	5				3	1	3	20
Wasting Diseases	Congenital Defects ...	2		1		3	1				1	1						21
	Injury at Birth ...	8				8												7
	Want of Breast-milk ...																	8
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	12	1	4	5	22	7	7		2	2	2	2	1		1	2	48
Tuberculous Diseases	Tuberculous Meningitis ...																	
	Tuberculous Peritonitis : Tabes Mesenterica																	1
	Other Tuberculous Diseases																	8
	Erysipelas ...													1				1
	Syphilis ...																	1
Other Causes...	Rickets ...								1									4
	Meningitis ... <i>(not Tuberculous)</i>																	
	Convulsions ...	5	5	1	3	14	9	4		1	1	1	2	2	3	2		39
	Bronchitis ...			2		2	3	6	1	1	1	3	1	3	2	4		27
	Laryngitis ...																	
Other Causes...	Pneumonia ...	2	1			3	1			3	1	2	1	2			1	14
	Suffocation, overlaying ...				1	1												1
	Other Causes...	2	1			3					1						1	5
		73	12	12	11	108	38	25	12	7	12	17	13	15	15	15	10	287

Births in the year { Legitimate ... 1,583.
Illegitimate ... 59.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages ... 890.

Population estimated to middle of 1905, 47,160.



